

this progress.

What the final shape of the energy portion of this will be no one can now say because that will have to await the conference. But I am very encouraged that progress is being made, and I do appreciate the fact that the Senate began consultations with the House yesterday, which is consistent with the commitments that were made on that.

Q. Where is the progress?

Q. Well, what do you say to Democrats in the House who feel like they walked the plank on the budget for nothing at this point?

The President. They didn't walk the plank on the budget for nothing. Their budget is going to be part of the conference. And they are being consulted now, and no decision has been made by the Senate yet.

You know, Chairman Moynihan and Senator Mitchell started with the Senators who are most hostile to the Btu tax. But they have 11 Senators on a committee they have to satisfy. And then they have to get a majority in the body of the Senate. So no decisions have been made yet. And most of those House Members with whom I talked in the process of passing the bill through the House only wanted to make sure that the House would also be consulted before the Senate committee finally voted. And we took steps to ensure that, and they began the consultative process yesterday.

Q. You've got the Black Caucus apparently so upset that they're not coming to a meeting here. What do you tell those people?

The President. That is not why there's not going to be a meeting here. But the Black Caucus, if they want to advocate for the Btu tax, you know, I like it. I think it's the best and fairest tax. And I think the Secretary of the

Treasury made a very good proposal for a modification of it. But neither they nor I have a vote on the Senate Finance Committee. The Btu levy will be in the conference, and no decision has been made. I have not signed off on any energy proposal in the Senate yet. I believe that the proposal we made is the best one we have. But neither they nor I have a vote on the Senate Finance Committee.

Let me say, in the end, the most important thing is that we bring the deficit down, that we cut spending, that we raise taxes on the wealthy, and that we invest money to grow this economy. That's the most important thing. We've got to find a way to do that consistent with what has happened already. And I'm very encouraged. I don't think—the American people shouldn't be upset by what's going on. They should go talk to their Senators if they have a different view and they want them to take a different view toward these particular taxes. That's what I'm trying to do, is to get the House and the Senate to work together before the Senate Finance Committee even votes.

Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Q. Why are there troops on the ground in Macedonia, Mr. President?

The President. To limit the conflict. As we said all along, we would support the United Nations in limiting the conflict. It's a very limited thing. No combat but an attempt to limit the conflict.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:07 a.m. in the Cabinet Room at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Remarks on Signing the National Cooperative Production Amendments of 1993

June 10, 1993

I want to thank Senator Leahy, Senator Biden, Congressman Brooks, and Congressman Fish for being here today and for their leadership in helping to enact into law the bill I am about to sign. I want to thank the Attorney General for her presence here and for the work

that the Justice Department did on this bill, H.R. 1313, called the National Cooperative Production Amendments of 1993.

This bill was the embodiment of the concept that the Vice President, who has just come in—come on up. Good to see you. He's magical.

I uttered his name, and he appeared. [Laughter] This bill is the embodiment of the concept that the Vice President and I strongly espoused during our campaign last year. It will allow American companies, large and small, to pool their resources to compete and win in the international marketplace.

Our Nation leads the world in basic research. We also have to be second to none in moving new technologies from the laboratory to the marketplace. We have to unleash the creativeness and the inventive prowess of both corporate giants and start-up enterprises in order to spur economic growth and new jobs.

The cooperative arrangements envisioned by this legislation will become increasingly necessary as the costs and skills required to develop and manufacture new products exceed the resources of any single company. These alliances will also help our businesses reduce the time required to bring new products to market, which frequently determines who wins and who loses in today's competitive marketplace. Successful companies, in turn, will create high-wage, high-skill jobs that will help to revitalize our economy.

By clarifying and eliminating misapprehensions about antitrust risk, this legislation will allow joint ventures that can increase efficiency, facilitate entry into markets, and create new productive capacity that otherwise would simply not be achieved.

I'm confident this legislation will benefit both the consumers and the workers in the United States by strengthening our industrial base while maintaining a sound antitrust oversight to pre-

vent improper collusion. Now is the time to strip away outdated impediments to economic growth and to our potential and to begin real movement in this last decade of the 20th century.

I'm pleased that the committee report stresses that this legislation is consistent with our international obligations. Our administration will implement this legislation in a way that honors the commitments as set forth in our treaties of friendship, commerce, and navigation, bilateral investment treaties, and free trade agreements, and various organizations for economic cooperation and development.

Again, I want to commend Chairman Brooks, Senator Leahy, Senator Biden, Congressman Fish, and all the other Members of the Congress who worked so hard to make this bill a reality and the leadership of both the House and the Senate. This is an example of how you can have a real bipartisan coalition to make America work again, to help our business and our working people to move forward in the global economy. And I am very excited about it.

And I know that the Vice President joins me in thanking the congressional sponsors for their strong leadership. And I want to thank all the people here around me who helped to make the bill a reality, members of the congressional staffs and of the high-tech community.

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:15 p.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. H.R. 1313, approved June 10, was assigned Public Law No. 103-42. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Remarks on Signing the National Institutes of Health Revitalization Act of 1993

June 10, 1993

The President. Ladies and gentlemen, I want to welcome all those of you who are here today for the signing of S. 1, the National Institutes of Health Revitalization Act of 1993, and to especially recognize the bipartisan coalition which made this bill possible, led by the Senators and the Members of the House of Representatives who are here. I also want to thank the representatives of the groups who are here,

including the Women's Health Network, the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, the American Association of Medical Colleges, the Allen Guttmacher Institute, the Alzheimer's Association, the Human Rights Campaign Fund, the Breast Cancer Coalition, and the National Health Council, and perhaps others. If I've left anyone out, forgive me.

This legislation highlights the importance of